Zero Boil-Off Tank Experiment-2 (ZBOT-2)

PI: Dr. Mohammad Kassemi, NCSER/GRC
Co-I: Dr. David Chato, NASA GRC
PS: David Plachta , NASA GRC
PM: William Sheredy, NASA GRC
Engineering Team: ZIN Technologies, Inc.

Glenn Research Center

Objective:

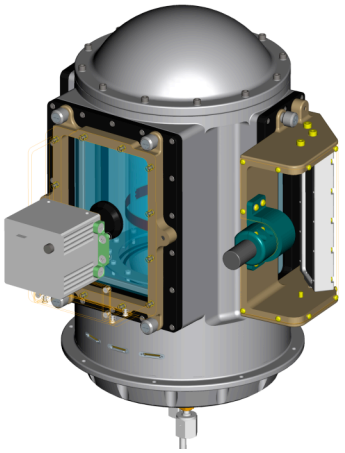
- Develop a small-scale simulant-fluid experiment for both preliminary ground-based testing and subsequent ISS flight experiments in order to obtain valuable microgravity empirical data for a ZBO tank design and archival science data for model validation.
- Build a science base for the future space storage tank engineering efforts by elucidating the effects of transport and phase change phenomena associated with mixing and cooling of the bulk liquid on tank pressure control in variable gravity through systematic 1g and microgravity scientific investigation.
- Develop, validate, and verify variable gravity two-phase CFD models for ventless ZBO storage tank pressure control that can be used to aid scale-up tank design.
- Show the feasibility of ZBO pressure control scheme for microgravity and variable gravity applications by examining active cooling strategies that include: (a) simultaneous cooling and mixing using a subcooled liquid jet; (b) intermittent mixing and cooling using a separate cold finger and liquid jet mixer; and (c) broad area cooling with and without liquid mixing.

Relevance/Impact:

- Reduces launch mass and decreases risks through enabling design concepts for long-term storage of cryogenic fluids.
- Cost effective and reliable cryogenic storage for both life support and propulsion systems satisfying the requirements for long term mission scenarios from Moon to Mars and beyond.

Development Approach:

- Ground phase: develop ground-based experiment and obtain 1-g data for tank pressurization and pressure control.
- Flight phase: develop ISS experiment and obtain microgravity data for tank pressurization and pressure control.
- Develop a state-of-the art two-phase CFD model for tank pressurization and pressure control.
- Validate and Verify (V&V) the CFD model with microgravity and 1g data.
- Use the validated CFD model and empirical correlations derived from the 1g and microgravity data for scale-up tank design.



Vacuum Jacket/Test Tank Assembly with Camera Package

ISS Resource Requirements

Accommodation (carrier)	Fluids Integrated Rack
Upmass (kg) (w/o packing factor)	80 - 100 kg
Volume (m^3) (w/o packing factor)	0.10 - 0.12 m^3
Power (kw) (peak)	0.100 kW
Crew Time (hrs) (installation/operations)	15 - 20 hrs. total
Launch/Increment	TBD

Project Life Cycle Schedule

Milestones	RCR	RDR	PDR	CDR	VRR	Phase III Safety	FHA	Launch	Ops	Return	Final Report
Actual/ Baseline	**TBD**	**FY11**	**FY12**	**FY13**	**TBD**	**TBD**	**FY14**	**TBD**	**TBD**	**TBD**	**TBD**